

Question Responses and Small-Table Discussion Summary

Attendance - 11 people (plus 3 Committee members and 3 staff)

Identifying long-term investment spending priorities; Determining how best for Wichita to grow over the next 20 years -

QUESTION: Prioritize future City spending within the following three general categories of infrastructure investment (Priority #1, #2, #3) (7 complete responses)

<u>Spending Priority</u>	<u>Categories of Investment</u>		
72% #1	14% #2	14% #3	Maintaining and replacing what the city currently has
28% #1	72% #2	0% #3	Making enhancements to what the city currently has
0% #1	14% #2	86% #3	Expanding the city's current system of public assets

QUESTION: Check future City spending priorities within each of the following types of infrastructure projects (9 complete responses)

Maintaining and replacing what the city currently has:	<u>Spending Priority</u>		
	Low	Med.	High
<i>Repairing and maintaining existing local streets</i>	0	3	6
<i>Replacing and maintaining aging water & sewer lines</i>	0	4	5
<i>Maintaining existing parks and recreation centers</i>	1	1	7
<i>Maintaining existing cultural arts and entertainment facilities</i>	2	1	6
<i>Maintaining existing libraries</i>	0	4	5
<i>Maintaining existing transit system</i>	1	3	5
<i>Maintaining existing fire and police facilities</i>	0	6	3

Expanding the city's current system of public assets:	<u>Spending Priority</u>		
	Low	Med.	High
<i>Constructing the NW Bypass (Goddard to Maize)</i>	7	1	0
<i>Adding new streets</i>	5	4	0
<i>Adding new water & sewer lines</i>	4	3	2
<i>Adding sewer treatment plant capacity</i>	2	4	3
<i>Adding new parks</i>	1	5	3
<i>Adding new fire stations and upgrading police facilities</i>	3	5	1

Making enhancements to what the city currently has:	<u>Spending Priority</u>		
	Low	Med.	High
<i>Kellogg freeway improvements to Goddard and Butler County</i>	5	3	1
<i>Constructing South Area Parkway Bypass (around south Wichita)</i>	5	4	0
<i>Securing long-term water supply</i>	1	0	8
<i>Upgrading existing parks</i>	1	2	6
<i>Upgrading existing cultural arts & entertainment facilities</i>	2	1	6
<i>Upgrading existing libraries</i>	0	4	5
<i>Major transit system/service improvements (Transit Vision 2013)</i>	2	2	5

DISCUSSION: *What projects and investments are most critical to Wichita's future?*

- Investments in community quality of life projects – esp. arts and cultural facilities; parks and recreation facilities. Things like the Ice Palace have attracted new residents – strong arts and cultural facilities are essential to attract new people and keep existing people in our community
- Improvements to catch up with our existing basic infrastructure/community assets – local roads, water, sewer and storm sewer improvements within the urban core area
- Investments that will enhance our local education – esp. libraries
- An improved transit system will be necessary to increase accessibility options for our aging citizens and to attract younger people to our community
- Explore innovative public re-investment like the conversion of older, under-utilized tennis courts to 'street soccer'/basketball facilities
- Improved access to neighborhood parks
- Identify and agree upon the most important items for future investment, and then cut/defer all other items on the project needs/wants list

QUESTION: *Recognizing that growth in all areas of Wichita is necessary for enhancing the quality of life in our community, rank the following three Wichita growth areas according to which you think **best** supports the future growth, prosperity and quality of life of our community (1=best, 2=second best, 3=third best) (8 complete responses)*

Rank

1	Established Urban Core	62% best	25% 2 nd best	13% 3 rd best
2	Downtown	13% best	74% 2 nd best	13% 3 rd best
3	Suburbs	26% best	0% 2 nd best	74% 3 rd best

% of Respondents Currently Living in:

Downtown	38%
Suburbs	38%
Established Urban Core	12%
Other	12%

DISCUSSION: *How best should Wichita grow over the next 20 years?*

- Identify growth areas that will generate the best overall return on investment over the long term
- Focus on quality and quantity development/redevelopment within the established urban core
- Downtown and the urban core are inter-related and their long-term vitality is important to everyone in this community. Focus future investments in a balanced fashion, strengthening the downtown/urban core and moving outwards from there
- The suburbs will continue to be an important growth area for our community
- A strong cultural center will send a positive message about our community
- People will want a different lifestyle and housing choices as they become empty-nesters and retire – improved public transit will become more important in the future

Creating an effective infrastructure investment decision-making process for the long-term -

DISCUSSION: *What would you want an elected official to consider when making decisions about investing in new capital projects, modifying existing projects, or eliminating existing capital projects?*

- Make targeted investments that help create the future place where people will say, "That's where I want to live, work and play"
- Ask whether we as a community can afford not to do this project
- Consider all investment decisions in the context of the impact on future generations of our community
- Focus on future investments on projects and facilities that will improve the quality of life in our community
- Health and safety should be important investment considerations
- Keeping our current assets up to standard must be a priority for future investment decision-making
- Always think larger and what the longer term will be for future generations

- Consider what will do the least harm when eliminating or deferring projects, and what will generate the most benefit when approving projects
- Consider and seek community engagement and feedback prior to making major investment decisions

Establishing important infrastructure investment decision-making criteria and considerations -

QUESTION: Listed below are important criteria and considerations to guide future community infrastructure investment spending and cost-reduction decisions. Please check the two (2) **most** important and the two (2) **least** important. (9 complete responses)

Importance		<u>Decision-making criteria & considerations</u>
<u>Least</u>	<u>Most</u>	
2	3	Promotes economic growth and job creation
0	6	Advances our community quality of life
2	0	Advances community health and safety
1	7	Creates a place where future generations will want to live, work and play
6	0	Priority as identified in existing adopted plans (e.g. the city/county comprehensive plan)
4	1	Essential for the future physical growth and development of our community
0	2	Demonstrated ability and commitment to maintain the project

DISCUSSION: What are the most important decision-making criteria?

- Investments that will advance the quality of life in our community
- Investments that will promote economic growth and new job creation
- Quality of life investments, economic growth and creating a future place where people will want to live, work and play are inter-related. What must come first are the quality of life investments to help attract new jobs and people. Without jobs, there will be nothing to attract people, and the quality of life investments cannot be sustained
- Community engagement and involvement is an important part of the decision-making process
- It is important to prioritize our future investments, and then cut and/or defer all other future projects

Any other things or issues needing to be addressed or considered in the Community Investments Plan? -

DISCUSSION:

- Put the 'street soccer' concept on Activate Wichita to generate feedback on this re-use concept raised today in our discussion